

New Kentucky Public Library Standards

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA), working with the membership of the Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA), released the second edition of Kentucky Public Library Standards. Using federal Library Science and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, this work updated the initial edition. The Kentucky Public Library Standards were introduced in 2002 to help public libraries rate their own strengths and weaknesses.

Stressing ongoing planning and evaluation, standards provide baseline data and establish a strong foundation from which to develop local goals to address local needs. Through utilization of these standards, libraries can maximize their role in the community by focusing resources. "The public library community has enthusiastically supported the first edition of volunteer standards", said KDLA Field Services Director and committee member Judith Gibbons. "The second edition builds on the baseline data to provide a practical and useable tool to assess the community library and to provide a road map for transforming 21st century Kentucky public library service."

Standards measure a library's progress in the areas of Governance, Human Resources, Collections, Services, Facilities, Technology and Marketing. It is a self-evaluating tool that allows library trustees and administrators to grade their library on generally accepted standards. Libraries using these standards can achieve a level of Essential, Enhanced or Exemplary and will be recognized with a certificate of achievement from KPLA.

Standards are an essential tool that can be used to enable a library to achieve goals and objectives. By measuring the library's strengths and weaknesses, a rationale can be determined for requesting additional funding from the community, criteria can be established for strategic long-range planning and the libraries achievements can be recognized.

In order to ensure continued growth and progress, the Kentucky Public Library Standards will be an evolving document. It will be updated again at a future date and the bar will be raised to challenge libraries to achieve higher goals. Kentucky Public Library Standards is a permanent tool to measure services and recognize the achievements of Kentucky public libraries. Contact KDLA or your regional consultant for a copy of the Kentucky Public

Library Standards or access the Standards online on the KDLA website at <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/standards/manual.pdf> .

Henry County Public Library Bookmobile

Henry County Public Library's bookmobile is getting people's attention. The vehicle is enclosed in a colorful wrap of bright books and reading kids. The library took possession of the bookmobile July 1, 2005, then added shelving and wrap in September 2005. They held a bookmobile van Open House on Sept. 29, 2005 and built a new garage. The van pulled into the new garage on Nov. 21, 2005.



Henry County Public Library Bookmobile

The total cost of the bookmobile was \$36,086 and the wrap, produced by Brand Advertising Group, LLC, Lexington, was an additional \$7,675.

This new type of bookmobile now available to libraries gets better gas mileage, is much easier for all to access, and is more dependable. As a result, libraries can offer more stops at less cost.

"All the patrons, old and young, love the design, it really gets attention, bringing great praise," said Library Director Tym Ricketts. "All the kids watch for Ms. Linda with books and lollipops! We had remarks about the design like: 'Way to go!', 'not like the bookmobile when I was a kid', 'After seeing the outside you just can't wait to see the inside, it is so inviting!'"

KDLA Launches E-Archives

Since 1958, KDLA has been the state's central repository (the State Archives) for records of continuing value and has been responsible for housing, preserving and making them available for research. During this time, recordkeeping practices have continued to evolve. New record formats are emerging and have been adopted by public agencies. Increasingly, records are available to the public in electronic form.

KDLA has created an Electronic Records Archives (E-Archives) as a way of managing digital public records and making them available to our citizens. The E-Archives is a means of expanding KDLA's capacity to manage digital records of archival value. Initially, the E-Archives will contain a limited selection of electronic records, including meeting minutes of state-level boards, commissions and legislative committees, and electronic state agency publications. Staff hopes that this new resource will speed access to a wide range of information. To reach the E-Archives, visit <http://www.e-archives.ky.gov/>.

Text Express Youth Discussion Kits

Book discussion groups have taken public libraries by storm in the last decade. Book groups for children are especially rewarding. They promote thoughtful discussions, collaborative learning and other skills needed to become life-long readers. With the development of the Text Express Youth Book Discussion Kits, KDLA is able to provide a valuable resource to children's and youth librarians across Kentucky. The kits became available on March 1, 2006. Twenty diverse titles were selected by a committee of children's librarians in Kentucky. More titles are expected to be added in the coming years.

Search the catalog <http://kdla.kyvl.org> to see which kits are currently available.

Reserve yours today using the online form at:
http://www.kdla.ky.gov/research/asklib_publib_materials.htm

For more information, go online at:
<http://www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/children/text-express.htm>.
Or contact Nikole Wolfe at 502-564-8300 ext. 266 or nikole.wolfe@ky.gov

Each kit contains:

- 20 paperback copies of the book
- Audio Book*
- Information about the book and the author
- Discussion Questions
- Activity Guide
- Resources for Discussion Leaders

*Selected titles only

Grade 4 & Up:

Because of Winn Dixie
By Kate DiCamillo

Joey Pigza Loses Control
By Jack Gantos

Mick Harte was Here
By Barbara Park

Grade 5 & Up:

Chasing Vermeer
By Blue Balliett

Skeleton Man
By Joseph Bruchac

Among the Hidden
By Margaret Peterson Haddix

Holes
By Louis Sachar

Grade 6 & Up:

Fever 1793
By Laurie Halse Anderson

*Phineas Gage;
A Gruesome but True Story
about Brain Science*
By John Fleischman

The Thief Lord
By Cornelia Funke

Coraline
By Neil Gaiman

Hoot
By Carl Hiaasen

Goose Chase
By Patrice Kindl

*Guts: The True Stories
Behind Hatchet and the
Brian Books*
By Gary Paulsen

Esperanza Rising
By Pam Munoz Ryan

Stargirl
By Jerry Spinelli

Grade 8 & Up:
Bronx Masquerade
By Nikki Grimes

Tunnel in the Sky
By Robert Heinlein

Grade 9 & Up:
The Bean Trees
By Barbara Kingsolver

*Ultimate Spiderman:
Power and
Responsibility
Volume 1*
By Brian Michael
Bendis and Bill Jemas.

KDLA Director Receives Outstanding Public Library Service Award

Judith Gibbons, Field Services Director at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) for the past eight years, has been honored with the 2006 Outstanding Public Library Service Award from her peer professionals in the Kentucky Library Association (KLA).

Virginia G. Fox, Secretary of the Education Cabinet, said, "As a former elementary school librarian, I know the importance of the work that all librarians do for our state. I appreciate Judith Gibbons' dedication to her profession and to her community. It is a tremendous honor to be recognized for outstanding work by your peers."

Gibbons has worked in the library field for 28 years, having been director of the Woodford County library for more than 13 years before coming to KDLA. As Field Services director at KDLA, she oversees the agency's work with all the Commonwealth's public libraries through a network of regional consultants and other agency professionals. The Versailles resident also serves as the president of the Southeastern Library Association (SELA), a coalition of librarians from 13 southern states.



KDLA Field Services Director Judith Gibbons

James A. Nelson, state librarian and commissioner of KDLA, applauded the award to Gibbons and said, "Judith has done much to strengthen our public libraries and to improve our services for blind readers. She is well recognized for her professionalism at the state, regional and national level, but this prestigious award from her peers is especially impressive. We're lucky to have Judith in this agency and in this state."

In presenting the award, Lisa Rice, assistant director of the Bowling Green Public Library and chair of the Kentucky Public Library Association, said, "Judith Gibbons has a passion for libraries and library advocacy that is unequalled. More importantly, Judith is a mentor to many of us across the state, inspiring us to achieve the excellence she models."

Gibbons, who is noted for her contributions to public library advocacy, has been named incoming chair of the American Library Association (ALA) Public Awareness Committee. She is a member of the board of the Kentucky Book Fair, and chairs its grants committee. She earned a master's degree in library science from the University of Kentucky, and a master's degree in public administration from Kentucky State University.

Three other awards were handed out at the Kentucky Public Library Association Conference. Casey County Public Library's Jim Tucker was awarded the 2006 James Harrison Outstanding Bookmobile/Outreach Award, the 2006 Miss Pickle Award for Children's Library Services went to Carol Sexton of Pulaski County Public Library and

Iris Garrott of McCracken County Public Library took home the 2006 Margaret F. Willis Outstanding Community Library Service Award. Congratulations to all of these dedicated professionals for their service to Kentucky public libraries.

Widening Circles

Widening Circles, KDLA's biennial conference for public librarians serving children and teens, will be held on September 20-22, 2006 at General Butler State Resort Park in Carrollton. Pre-conferences will be on September 19 and 20. Intensive training will focus on essential knowledge of children's literature and essential skills for planning and administration of children's services. Featured trainers will be Eliza Dresang of Florida State University, and Michael Sullivan of Simmons College and Weeks Public Library in Greenland, New Hampshire. Full details about this and other Widening Circles training will be sent along with registration materials to all public libraries in July. Contact KDLA's Children/Young Adults Consultant Carol Baughman at 502-564-8300 ext 264 or carol.baughman@ky.gov for additional information on this event.

YALSA Great Stories CLUB

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) has announced the 181 libraries chosen to host the Great Stories CLUB (Connecting Libraries, Underserved teens and Books), a book discussion program targeting troubled teens. The program was awarded to all types of libraries working in partnership with facilities serving troubled teens (such as juvenile detention centers and alternative high schools). The libraries will receive 11 sets of the three theme related books chosen by YASLA. The books are *Stuck in Neutral*, *Born Blue*, and *The First Part Last*.

Congratulations to the 3 public libraries in Kentucky chosen to host the project!

Bowling Green Public Library, Bowling Green KY
Warren Regional Juvenile Detention Center, Bowling Green KY

Marion County Public Library, Lebanon KY
Marion County Youth Service Center/21st Century, Lebanon KY

McCracken County Public Library, Paducah KY
McCracken County Juvenile Detention Center, Paducah KY

More information can be found at:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/may2006/181librariesGreatStories.htm>

There is also a discussion resource guide with discussion questions for the books and tips on book discussions that could be applied to any group:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/currentprograms/greatstories/projdir.htm>

‘Cross the Commonwealth

The **Fleming County Public Library** is partnering with the Fleming County School System to host a three day *Reading Festival: Generations of Families, Schools & Communities Putting Reading First* to encourage family literacy. The First Annual Reading Festival will be held June 26, 27 & 28 at the Fleming Mason Electric Auditorium and Pavilion. E.B. Lewis, Steven Kroll, Barbara Libby, George Ella Lyon, Paul Brett Johnson, and the “Real D.W.”, Kim Brown will be presenting programs to all ages at different times during the day. Adult speakers are scheduled for the mornings and storytellers are scheduled for the evenings. E. B. Lewis will present an evening lecture at the new Banana Tree Art Studio. Signed copies of each author/illustrator's books will be given away every day until all copies are gone. Buses will be making scheduled stops in the county to pick up families and bring them to the festival, and take them home. Free lunch will be provided every day to all who attend, and there will be drawings for door prizes each day.

Carrie Rhoton, trustee from **Monroe County Public Library** was awarded the Trustee Scholarship to attend the American Library Association conference in New Orleans. Regina Holland, Director, will also attend. This will be the first time Monroe County will be represented at an ALA Conference.

Nelson County Public Library Director Sharon Shanks and **Montgomery County Public Library** Director Melissa Smathers-Barnes have been awarded grants from KDLA to attend the 2006 Annual American Library Association Conference in New Orleans.

Leslie County Public Library has been awarded a bookmobile grant from KDLA. Their current 1975 bookmobile is the oldest in the state. It is also the vehicle with the most mileage, registered at 123,400 miles. Were it not for the breakdown of the speedometer, which was later repaired, it should read well over 200,000 miles. The outstanding circulation figure for 2004/05 is almost double that of the next highest number among applicants. The library had increasingly higher repair costs each year with over \$7,000 spent in 2004/05.

Gallatin County Public Library announced that they had wireless capability installed and it is the first hot spot in the county.

Russell County Public Library Assistant Director Glenda York shared details about her own book club outside of work in an interview at ReadingGroupGuides.com. ReadingGroupGuides.com interviews special reading groups around the world, spotlighting a different group each month. In this interview, York talks about her group's discussion of the ever-controversial *The Da Vinci Code* and suggests some resources for finding diverse reading selections. She says that people participating in reading groups “should have fun and not get too serious about things. Allow people to disagree (this is going to happen and can actually be fun and instructional). Just be respectful of

a person's point of view even if it differs from your own.” You can read the entire interview at http://www.readinggroupguides.com/roundtable/interview_library_index.asp

Trustee Forum

Trustees don't forget to register for this year's Trustee Forum. Dr. Charlaine Ezell from *The Extra Edge* will speak on the topic of *How to Evaluate a Library Director*. You can register for any one of the five forums held across the state on July 24-28, 2006. The Forums are sponsored by KDLA and a dinner will be provided prior to Dr. Ezell's presentation at each location. Registration deadline is July 14, 2006. Contact your regional librarian for more information or register online at <http://www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged/registration072406.htm> .

Continuing Education Calendar

July

13-14	Promoting Library Services Using Blogs and RSS	ONLINE
21	Genealogy Basics for Librarians	Ashland
24	Trustee Forum	Carrollton
25	Trustee Forum	Dawson Springs
26	Trustee Forum	Russell Springs
27	Trustee Forum	Slade
28	Trustee Forum	Elizabethtown
28	Genealogy Basics for Librarians	Mt. Sterling

August

7-8	Just for Copy Cats	Frankfort
16	Providing Consumer Health Information in a Public Library	Lexington
18	Providing Consumer Health Information in a Public Library	Bowling Green

September

19-22	Widening Circles VIII	Carrollton
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Contact KDLA's Continuing Education Consultant Ron Critchfield at 502-564-8300 ext 219 or ron.critchfield@ky.gov for more information on any of these continuing education opportunities. Online registration is also available on KDLA's website at <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged.htm> .

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Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

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